Population explosion

†*120. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is on the brink of population explosion;

(b) whether it is a fact that if this trend continues then India would be the most populated country in the world by the year 2050;

(c) whether after failing in all their efforts to control the situation Government have now finally sought the cooperation of private sector for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (d) India's population on March 1, 2001 was 102.7 crore. The census 2001 has revealed that the decline in average annual growth rate of population has been sharper during 1991—2001, as given in the Table below:

Decade	Growth Rate
1961—1971	2.20%
1971—1981	2.22%
1981—1991	2.14%
1991—2001	1.93%

The current high population growth rate in some parts of the country is due to:

- The large size of the population in the reproductive age group (estimated contribution 60%)
- Higher fertility due to unmet need for contraception (estimated contribution 20%)
- High wanted fertility due to prevailing high Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and son preference etc. (estimated contribution about 20%)

While in absolute terms, the population of India has increased by 180.6 Millions during the decade 1991—2001 however, the change in net addition has shown a steady declining trend starting from 1991. Undoubtedly, a combination of the population momentum and the method mix widely adopted for fertility regulation has ensured that the net

†*Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

additionally is on the decrease. For the country as a whole the achievements under the "National Family Welfare Programmes" have been quite substantial.

Some States/UTs like Goa, Nagaland, Delhi, Kerala, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Tamil Nadu, Chandigarh and Mizoram have already achieved goals set for the year 2010 and States/UTs like Manipur, Daman & Diu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh and Lakshadweep are close to achieving the goals. However, other States are lagging behind primarily on account of slow achievements of socio-economic indicators.

National Population Policy adopted in February, 2000, envisages partnership of non-Government voluntary organizations, the private corporate sector, Government, and the community towards the national effort for achieving early population stabilisation. The national programme to reach out to households cannot be sustained by Government alone. Triggered by rising incomes and institutional finance, private health care has grown significantly, with an impressive pool of expertise and management skills, and currently accounts for nearly 75 per cent of health care expenditures. The Government has involved Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) for provisioning of service delivery in unserved and underserved population of the country. By now Government has recognized Mother NGO for 439 districts of the country, through which a network of 1,000 NGOs is now in place. Four Regional Resource Centres in Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Dindigul, have been recognized, which will help in capacity building of these NGOs. The Government also had detailed consultations with Rotary International, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for their support in extending family welfare services in partnership with the Government.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Construction of Mahadev-Tolloi-Pfutsero Road

441. SHRI RISHANG KEISHING: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state: